FS John Joseph Kinkaid R/95729 RCAF



John, known as Jacky, was born on 1 July 1914 in Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, the son of James Kinkaid and Mary Kinkaid nee Malley. In December 1936 he married Mabel Ida Sarah Smith in Ottawa. They had two children.

Educated at St Patrick's Separate School and Ottawa Technical High School, John was employed as an underground pneumatic drill operator by Lake Shore Mines, Kirkland Lake, Ontario when, in October 1940, he applied for aircrew duties in the RCAF. Called up in March 1941, John completed his training in November 1941 with the award of his wings and embarked for the UK the following month.

Following advanced training at 3(P) Advanced Flying Unit RAF South Cerney, Gloucestershire, 16 OTU RAF Upper Heyford, Oxfordshire and 29 OTU RAF North Luffenham, Rutland, in August 1942 John was posted to 101 Sqn at RAF Stradishall, Suffolk.

On 27/28 August 1942 Bomber Command were tasked with an op against Kassel, Hesse, Germany, home to industrial factories that contributed significantly to Germany's war effort, including the three large Henschel factories, the Fieseler aircraft facility and the Military HQs at Wehrkreis IX, and Bereich Hauptsitz. A combined force of 306 aircraft, including thirteen 101 crews, were allocated to the op.

At 20:42 on 27 August, John, operating as the 2nd Pilot, and the crew departed RAF Stradishall in Wellington III BJ698 (SR).

At 02:10 on 28 August an SOS message was received from John's aircraft when it was eighty miles east of the Suffolk coast. Nothing further was heard from the crew and it is believed they were lost in the North Sea.

Also Killed: F/L George Lionel Clack (AG); PO Edward Beale (Pilot); FS Harry Edward Roberts RCAF (AG); Sgt Frank Donald Chudleigh (WOp/AG); Sgt Dan Rowles (WOp/AG)

John has no known grave and is commemorated on the Runnymede Memorial, Surrey

John commemorated on Wall Panel 194

Photo Source: IBCC